

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
GREENWOOD COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018
GREENWOOD COUNTY LIBRARY
4:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Steven J. Brown, District Five
Vice-Chairman Chuck Moates, District Four
Councilwoman Edith S. Childs, District One
Councilman Mark Allison, District Two
Councilman Gonza Bryant, District Three
Councilman Robbie Templeton, District Six
Councilman Theo Lane, District Seven

STAFF PRESENT

Toby Chappell, County Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steven Brown called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of this meeting's date, time, location, and agenda was posted outside the main entrances of the Greenwood County Courthouse and the Greenwood County Library. Agendas were distributed to the *Index-Journal*, local radio stations, and posted on the Greenwood County website calendar.

INVOCATION

Councilman Gonza Bryant, District Two, delivered the invocation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action may be taken on items discussed in executive session.

Chairman Brown stated there was a need to go into executive session.

1. Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body; however, if an adversary hearing involving the employee or client is held, the employee or client has the right to demand that the hearing be conducted publicly. Nothing contained in this item shall prevent the public body, in its discretion, from deleting the names of the other employees or clients whose records are submitted for use at the hearing. **(Personnel – Treasurer's Ofc; Evaluation of County Manager)**
2. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal

advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim. **(Contract – Board of Consultants; County Attorney – Policy)**

Vice Chairman Moates motioned to go into executive session, seconded by Councilwoman Childs, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: At 4:05 p.m., Council went into executive session.

Councilman Allison motioned to exit the executive session, seconded by Councilman Childs, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: At 5:35 p.m., Council exited executive session.

Chairman Brown stated that there was a need to take action as a result of the executive session and asked Council for a motion. Vice Chairman Moates motioned pursuant to Section 1-11-730 of the South Carolina Code of Laws to allow coverage in the State Health and Dental Plans for former County Council members who have served at least 12 years and were covered at the time of termination, provided that the former member pays the full employer and employee contribution. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Childs. Chairman Brown summarized the motion by stating it allows a Council member who complies with the State Statute to remain on the insurance as long as they pay the premiums. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Council approved that former Council members who comply with the State Statute may continue coverage in the State Health and Dental Plans by paying the premiums.

Chairman Brown welcomed the visitors to the meeting.

INVOCATION

Councilman Gonza Bryant asked Reverend Doctor David Scott, presiding Elder for AME Church for the Greenwood Abbeville area, to deliver the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 4, 2018 REGULAR MEETING, AND DECEMBER 13, 2018 SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

Chairman Brown stated that the minutes were provided prior to the meeting and asked if there were any corrections to the minutes.

There were no corrections. Councilwoman Childs motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Bryant, and the minutes passed by a unanimous vote.

ACTION: Council approved the Minutes for December 4, 2018 Regular Meeting and December 13, 2018 Special Called Meeting.

PRESENTATION

Cokesbury College Presentation – Rob Jones

Mr. Jones approached the podium and introduced other board members who were in the audience. He reported on the appointment procedure for and the duties of the board members. He gave a detailed history of the College since its inception in 1824 as Mount Ariel Village. He also reported on the current projects, the uses as an event venue for the community, as well as, visitors. Concluding his presentation was an update on future projects to further enhance the property and structures around the campus. He commented that he would welcome any support from Greenwood County.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Sign-In Only)

None

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Consideration of Appointment to the Greenwood County Library Board. – Toby Chappell, County Manager

Mr. Chappell reminded Council of the decision from the November meeting to delay the appointment of Ms. Margaret Anderson for consideration to the Library Board because of a personal family matter. He reported that Ms. Anderson had contacted the County office to state that she was ready to be considered for the vacant position. Chairman Brown restated the request as being a reappointment, and asked for the pleasure of Council. Vice Chairman Moates motioned to reappoint Ms. Anderson to the Library Board, seconded by Councilman Allison, and the motioned carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Council approved the reappointment of Ms. Margaret Anderson to the Greenwood County Library Board.

Chairman Brown also recognized Ms. Ojetter Williams who had been appointed to the Library Board during the November meeting. He welcomed her to the meeting and thanked her for her willingness to serve.

- B. Public Hearing and Third Reading

The Chairman asked for a motion to enter into the Public Hearing portion of the Agenda. Councilman Bryant motioned to enter into public hearings, seconded by Councilman Lane, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Council entered into the Public Hearing portion of the Agenda.

1. Ordinance 2018-26 authorizing (1) the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax and incentive agreement by and between Greenwood County, South Carolina (the "County") and a company identified for the time being as Project Lamb, acting for itself, one or more affiliates and/or other project sponsors (collectively, the "Company"), pursuant to which the County shall covenant to accept certain negotiated fees in lieu of ad valorem taxes with respect to the establishment and/or expansion of certain facilities in the County (collectively, the "Project"); (2) the benefits of a multi-county industrial or business park to be made available to the

Company and the Project; (3) certain special source revenue credits in connection with the Project; and (4) other matters relating thereto. – Elizabeth Taylor, County Attorney

THIRD READING

Chairman Brown read the title and asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the ordinance.

Chairman Brown asked Ms. Heather Simmons Jones to clarify the request and give detail to the project. She and Mr. Hal McCord reported on the expansion of Ascend Performance Materials at their existing facility. Ms. Jones thanked County Council for their receptiveness to the incentives that are presented with the project and the opportunity to work with the County on projects. Mr. McCord thanked Greenwood County, County Council and the Partnership Alliance for their support to grow the business of Ascend in Greenwood. Chairman Brown shared that Ascend, and its former companies, have been in Greenwood for 58 years and appreciates their consistency and commitment to Greenwood through the years.

Chairman Brown asked if anyone was present to speak in opposition to the ordinance.

Hearing none, the Chairman asked Council for a motion to close the Public Hearing. Councilman Allison motioned to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Councilman Templeton, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chairman Brown asked Council their pleasure on the Third Reading of the ordinance.

Councilman Allison motioned to approve the Third Reading of Ordinance 2018-26, seconded by Councilman Bryant, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Council approved Ordinance 2018-26 regarding Ascend Performance Materials.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval of 2019 Official County Holidays. – Toby Chappell, County Manager

Mr. Chappell restated the request and confirmed that there were no conflicts with the holidays as they relate to the County Council Meetings. He asked for the adoption of the list of holidays. Councilman Lane reminded Council of a previous conversation regarding the Christmas holidays being addressed. He asked that the holiday calendar reflect Christmas Eve and Christmas Day as the holidays instead of the Day After Christmas. He restated that he felt it would be more desirable for employees to have Christmas Eve off. Mr. Chappell commented that the discussion was that Council would address the calendar each year to see how the days fell within the week. He added that it would be more advantageous to award the day that would be near the weekend. Councilman Lane commented that if families wanted to travel for the holiday, that it would be more beneficial to have the day before Christmas off. After further discussion, Chairman Brown asked for a motion by Council. Councilman Lane

motioned to revise the presented calendar to reflect Christmas Eve and Christmas Day as the 2019 Official County Holidays. The motion was seconded by Councilman Templeton. After the motion, there was further discussion regarding the change. Councilman Allison asked if the employees had been consulted about their preference. He added that he had spoken with a few of the employees who preferred the Day after Christmas off. He would like to yield to the desires of the employees. Further discussion confirmed that employees could take the day off that is not designated as a holiday, as a vacation day. Chairman Brown restated the motion for the 2019 Official County Holidays as revised and asked for the vote. Councilman Templeton asked if, in the event as needed, the calendar could be addressed and changed by Council. Chairman Brown confirmed that Council could change it. Council voted to approve to revise the 2019 Official County Holidays with a six to one vote. Vice Chairman Moates voted to oppose the change.

ACTION: Council approved to revise the 2019 Official County Holidays.

After the revision, Chairman Brown asked for a vote by Council to adopt the revised 2019 Official County Holidays. Councilwoman Childs motioned to adopt the calendar as revised, seconded by Councilman Lane, and the vote carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Council adopted the 2019 Official County Holidays as revised.

- B. Proclamation for Gonza L. Bryant, County Councilman for District Three. – Steve Brown, County Council Chairman

Councilman Brown delayed this presentation until after the District Reports.

DISTRICT REPORT

District One – Edith Childs

- Ms. Childs reminded Council of the Christmas dinner and Coat Drive at the Brewer Recreation Center.
- She reported that in response to the Community Violence Prevention meetings that were conducted, a group started a six week sewing class for girls ages 7-12. The registration is free, and the class will begin on January 14th from 4-5. Interested inquiries please call Melissa Webb at the Brewer Center. She thanked Ms. Carol Scales for her help.
- Ms. Childs recognized her husband, Charles, for his attendance at the meeting.

District Two – Mark Allison

- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from District Two.

District Three – Gonza Bryant

- Delayed until the end of the meeting.

District Four – Chuck Moates

- All is well in District Four

District Six – Robbie Templeton

- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
- All is well in District Six

District Seven – Theo Lane

- Mr. Lane recognized Ms. Ojetter Williams and thanked her for her willingness to serve on the Greenwood County Library Board.

District Five – Steven J. Brown

- No report from District Five

MANAGER'S REPORT, County Manager Toby Chappell

No report.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT, Elizabeth Taylor

No report.

Chairman Brown recognized Councilman Bryant for his 30 years of service and gave a heartwarming proclamation of Councilman Bryant's time spent with Greenwood County Council over the years. He invited each Council member to extend their warm thoughts and gratitude to Councilman Bryant for his friendship and professionalism. Chairman Brown presented Councilman Bryant with a small token from the County as a parting gift.

Councilman Bryant shared his thoughts and thankfulness to Council Members. He also welcomed and recognized several people, who were in attendance, with a proclamation. He extended his personal appreciation to each individually for all they had done for him during his tenure with Greenwood County Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action may be taken on items discussed in executive session.

No Executive Session was needed.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting and invited guests to join County Council with a reception to honor Councilman Gonza Bryant in his retirement from Greenwood County Council.

Susan McIntyre transcribed the minutes.